

**LESLIE ABRAMSON ELDRIDGE**

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**EDUCATION**

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**Master of Environmental Science and Management** Donald Bren School of Environmental Science and Management, University of California at Santa Barbara (UCSB) (June 2009) Conservation Planning & Natural Resource Management Specialization

*Selected Coursework:* Environmental Policy, GIS, Conservation Planning, Environmental Law, Environmental Justice, Corporate Social Responsibility, Statistics

*Honors:* Switzer Fellowship for Environmental Leadership (2008); Dana Carlson Severy Award (2007); James S. Bower Foundation Prize for Academic Excellence (2007)

*Leadership:* Graduate Student Association Representative, Bren Sustainability Committee

**Bachelor of Arts in Cultural and Social Anthropology** Stanford University Stanford, CA (June 2000) Theories of Social Inequality Specialization; Psychology Minor

*Selected Coursework:* Peace Studies, Healing Native America, Cultural Psychology, Medical Anthropology

*Leadership:* Assistant Director of Harmonics A Cappella group; House Manager of co-op

**PUBLIC SERVICE**

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**Ashland Parks and Recreation Commissioner** Ashland, OR. (1/20-current) Elected Vice Chair 1/23. APRC Commissioners have control and management of all park lands and funds in the City of Ashland.

- Forest Lands Management Advisory Council, Vice Chair (Worked on Climate Adaptation Addendum to Ashland Forest Plan)
- Trails Subcommittee, Chair (managed the Wasabi trail project, instrumental in Alice parcel acquisition)
- Recreational Division Advisory Council, Bee City USA (former), Public Arts Advisory Committee and Current Parks, Conservation and Maintenance Subcommittee (new member)

**PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

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**Senior Instructor in Environmental Science and Policy** Southern Oregon University, Ashland, OR. (9/17-current)

- Designed, managed and taught college level courses in public policy, natural resource management, conservation, land-use and forestry
- Served 3 years on SOU's Tuition Advisory Council, which reviews the SOU Budget and recommends tuition and fee proposals to the Provost
- Built a robust and extensive network of partners within the Ashland community for collaborative projects, senior capstones, educational experiences and internships.
- Served as an academic and career advisor/mentor to ~30 students
- Work as a departmental team to make programmatic and hiring decisions, create new majors and certifications, perform colleague evaluations and mentor junior faculty.

**Supervisory Sanctuary Advisory Council Coordinator/Resource Protection Specialist** NOAA Greater Farallones National Marine Sanctuary, San Francisco, CA. (1/11-5/15)

- Supervised and managed staff in preparing for large public meetings on Sanctuary issues
- Served as formal facilitator, negotiator and technical writer in Sanctuary working groups
- Managed portfolio of resource protection, policy and regulatory issues ranging from endangered species protections and commercial uses to sanctuary expansion
- Wrote press releases, prepared statements, presentations for staff and community
- Presented/led workshops at national and international marine conferences on various conservation and management issues
- Proposed, designed and mentored a UCSB Bren Masters Group Project
- Received a \$60k [leadership grant through the Robert and Patricia Switzer Foundation](#) to lead a joint working group with shipping industry and other stakeholders to reduce ship strike on whales

**Knauss Marine Policy Legislative Fellow** United States Senate Commerce Committee, Subcommittee on Oceans, Atmosphere, Fisheries and Coast Guard, Washington, DC (1/10-12/10)

- Advised congressional staffers and senators on a wide array of NOAA and USCG activities
- Drafted legislation on ocean and atmospheric science and policy
- Orchestrated congressional hearings on Deepwater Horizon, Ocean Acidification and others
- Wrote briefs, statement, questions and speeches for senators on subcommittee
- Attended the International Whaling Commission meeting in Morocco as part of US delegation

**Marine Research Technician, Relief Captain** Prince William Sound Science Center, Oil Spill Recovery Institute, Cordova, AK (6/09-9/09)

- Deployed, maintained and tracked oceanographic drifters at sea for oil spill response
- Cleaned, processed and mapped spatial data on drifter tracks and seabird sightings
- Prepared/loaded all vessels for expedition (food, science gear, equipment, technology)
- Installed high frequency radar tower on remote island in Prince William Sound
- Designed and maintained multi-media blog for expedition

**Resource Protection Policy Analyst** NOAA Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary, Santa Barbara, CA (8/07-6/09)

- Awarded NOAA Sea Grant to research large whale ship strikes in the Santa Barbara Channel
- Utilized marine spatial planning techniques to analyze sanctuary resource protection issues

**Launch Captain/Seaman Surveyor** NOAA Ship RAINIER, Home Port: Seattle, WA (3/06-8/09)

- Performed as the hydrographic survey launch Coxswain-in-Charge (Captain) in Alaska
- Assisted with the management of the ship as a Quartermaster, watch-stander, crane and gravity davit operator, Medical Person-In-Charge, fire team member, rescue swimmer and dive operations

**Third Mate** SSV CORWITH CRAMER, Sea Education Association, Woods Hole, MA (1/06-3/06)

- Served as Navigation, Communications, and Safety Officer
- Conducted Oceanographic research and traditional sailing education for Williams-Mystic Maritime Program in the Gulf of Mexico

**Captain, Senior Watch Officer/Lead Instructor** Hurricane Island Outward Bound School, Rockland, ME (5/01-12/05)

- Earned the 'Silver Award' for 500 days in the field
- Led summer and winter wilderness expeditions for all ages (backpacking, canoeing, rock and ice climbing, sea kayaking, snowshoeing)
- Taught sailing courses (30' open sprit-rigged ketch with oars) as the Senior Watch Officer
- Led tall ship semester courses in North Atlantic, Caribbean, and Mediterranean

## **PAPERS AND PUBLICATIONS**

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Joint Working Group on Vessel Strikes and Acoustic Impacts. 2012. [Vessel Strikes and Acoustic Impacts](#). Report of a Joint Working Group of Gulf of the Farallones and Cordell Bank National Marine Sanctuaries Advisory Councils. San Francisco, CA. 43 pp.

Lindholm, J. and R. Pavia (Eds). 2010. [Examples of ecosystem-based management in national marine sanctuaries: moving from theory to practice](#). Marine Sanctuaries Conservation Series ONMS-10-02. U.S. Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Office of National Marine Sanctuaries, Silver Spring, MD. 33pp.

Abramson, L., Polefka, S., Hastings, S., Bor, K. 2009. [Reducing the Threat of Ship Strikes on Large Cetaceans in the Santa Barbara Channel Region and Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary](#). Prepared and adopted by the Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary Advisory Council. 73 pgs.

Abramson, L, Chennell, M, Eisch, E, Glassco, A. and Holley, T. (2009) [Post-Fire Sedimentation and Flood Risk Potential in the Mission Creek Watershed of Santa Barbara](#). Master's Thesis, University of California, Santa Barbara.

## **SKILLS/CERTIFICATIONS**

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### **Professional Certifications and Trainings**

Certified Park and Recreation Professional (In progress)  
Stewardship of Public Lands Seminar (American Association of State Colleges and Universities/Yellowstone Forever)  
Title IX and Sexual Harassment Prevention Training for Employees (SOU)  
Faculty Search Committee Training (SOU)  
Negotiating Effective Environmental Agreements (Concur Consulting)  
Project Planning (NOAA)  
Congressional Research Training on Legislative Branch of US Government (CRS)

### **Outdoor Certifications**

USCG Captain License 200 Ton Near Coastal Master  
NOAA Working Diver  
AAUS Scientific Diver  
PADI Dive Instructor  
NOAA Rescue Swimmer  
Medical Person-In-Charge  
Wilderness First Responder  
CPR/1<sup>st</sup> Aid  
Outward Bound Lead Instructor and Captain  
BICP Level 1 Mountain Biking Coach

### **Computer Skills**

Microsoft Office 360, G-Suite, ArcGIS, Social Media Skills

### **Hobbies/Interests**

Backcountry skiing, mountain biking; trail running, backpacking, reading, cooking and fermentation, nutrition and food systems

-References Available Upon Request-